

Commissioner for Patents
May 14, 2007
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Serial No. 10/782,455
Art Unit: 2831 Examiner: Angel R Estrada
IBM Docket: AUS920031049US1(4037)

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REMARKS

Claims 33-60 are pending. Claims 33, 34, 37-41, 43, 44, and 53-60 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102. Claims 35, 36, and 42 are objected to but allowable if corrected. Applicant appreciates the recognition of the allowable claims and places the claims in condition for allowance.

Claim Amendments

Applicant amended the claims 35 and 36 to include the limitations of independent claim 33. While claims 35 and 36 were previously dependent upon claim 34, which in turn was dependent upon claim 33, the reasons for allowance indicate that claims 35 and 36 would be independently allowable. Please call Jeffrey Schubert at 512-288-6635 to discuss if Examiner is of the opinion that such contact would expedite allowance of these claims.

Dependent claims 34 and 37-40 are amended as necessary to depend upon claim 35. New claims 61-66 include the substance of claims 34 and 37-40 and depend upon claim 36. As dependents of claims 35 and 36, claims 34, 37-40, and 61-66 incorporate the limitations of claims 35 and 36. Thus, Applicant respectfully argues that claims 34, 37-40, and 61-66 should be allowed.

Applicant amended the independent claim 41 to include the limitations of claim 42 in accordance with the allowable matter described in the Office action. Dependent claims 43 and 44 depend upon claim 41. As dependents of claim 41, claims 43 and 44 incorporate the limitations of claim 41. Thus, Applicant respectfully argues that claims 43 and 44 should be allowed.

Applicants are not conceding in this application that the original claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject

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matter noted by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these
and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

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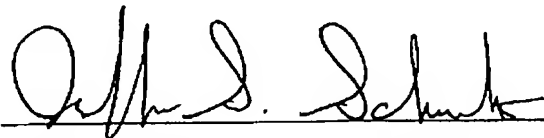
CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully places the claims in allowable form substantially in accordance with the reasons for allowance in the Office action for claims 34, 35, and 42. Accordingly, Applicant believes that this response constitutes a complete response to each of the issues raised in the Office action. In light of the amendments made herein and the accompanying remarks, Applicant believes that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Thus, Applicant requests that the rejections be withdrawn, pending claims be allowed, and application advance toward issuance. The undersigned attorney requests a telephone conference at (512) 288-6635 if Examiner is of the opinion that such contact would expedite allowance of the claims.

A petition and payment for an extension of time is attached. No other fees are believed due with this paper. However, if any fee is determined to be required, the Office is authorized to charge Deposit Account 09-0447 for any such required fee.

Respectfully submitted,

May 24, 2007
Date



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